

BDC - Healthy, Safe, Clean and Green Scrutiny Meeting – 30th June 2015

Briefing on Enforcement and Education arrangements between Street Scene and Environmental Health

Sharon Gillott, Environmental Health Manager

During the year the Joint Environmental Health Service has continued to work closely with Street Scene and Community Safety to ensure that enforcement, education and cleansing of fly tipping, litter and dog fouling is coordinated so as to be as effective as possible.

The Environmental Enforcement, Cleansing and Education Group meets bi-monthly to facilitate this close working and the terms of reference for this group are attached at **Appendix A**. This Group reports directly to the Patch Management Group

A number of educational initiatives have been organised across the District to raise public awareness of the impact that fly tipping, dog fouling and littering has on others and the environment. E.g. The Stumps at Clowne, Highview Road at South Normanton. The events so far scheduled for 2015/16 to meet the Corporate Plan Target are attached at **Appendix B**.

All incidents are investigated where evidence of the offenders may be identified and CCTV is deployed in fly tipping hotspots across the District. This proactive action by the Council has resulted in the public reporting more incidents to the Council.

Other actions that the Council takes to deal with Dog Fouling/Littering and Fly Tipping:

- (1) Proactive patrolling of area on foot and in vehicles
- (2) Wearing of high visibility tabards stating 'Dog Fouling Patrol'
- (3) PR events promoting responsible dog ownership and offering free microchipping, with information on littering and fly tipping
- (4) Issuing of Fixed Penalty Notices
- (5) Following up of intelligence received re alleged offences in line with Enforcement Policy
- (6) Giving out of free poop scoop bags
- (7) Spray signs on pavements 'Pick up or Pay up'
- (8) Putting up signage on street furniture, i.e. lamp posts

- (9) On large recreational areas spray dog faeces in biodegradable paint to highlight the problem and put up signs in the immediate area explaining to people what we have done and why to raise awareness of the problem
- (10) Give talks to schools / groups on responsible dog ownership
- (11) Leaflet drops in problem areas warning of dog fouling patrols
- (12) Issue of press releases and publish the outcome of prosecutions to raise awareness. **See two examples at Appendix C**

Appendix A

Environmental Enforcement, Cleansing and Educational Group Terms of Reference

Aim:

To effectively coordinate the Council's actions against the incidence of dog fouling, littering and fly tipping by the use of statutory enforcement powers, cleansing, educational initiatives and publicity.

Purpose:

The group consist of officers from Environmental Health, Street Scene and Community Safety. By meeting together the group are able to share intelligence from service requests and complaints which assist in the planning of initiatives and enforcement approaches which focus resources on the areas of greatest need. The group will continuously review its actions and share learning and experience with the aim of ensuring the Council offers the highest quality services to our customers.

Scope of group:

1. To coordinate work to ensure effective and efficient action is taken to deal with dog fouling, littering and fly tipping in the areas of Bolsover and North East Derbyshire District Council's.
2. To share information and intelligence on complaints and service requests regarding dog fouling, littering and fly tipping.
3. To consider Elected Member concerns and requests.
4. To endeavour to improve the Council's performance and subject to available resources, operate to best practice standards.
5. To share success and achievements including the release of press articles and appropriate publicity.
6. To identify gaps where policies and procedures are needed and, where appropriate, contribute to the development of these.
7. To foster good quality joint working internally, externally and across the two Authorities.

8. To keep the group informed of changes in the law, guidance and working practices that impact on enforcement activities.

The Group will endeavour to meet bi-monthly, and report to the Patch Management Working Group.

Sharon Gillott - Environmental Health Manager

Joint Environmental Health Service, Bolsover and North East Derbyshire DC

Reviewed May 2015

Appendix B – Educational initiatives scheduled

Corporate Plan Target: Annually undertake 10 local environmental enforcement and educational initiatives in targeted areas to deal with dog fouling, littering or fly tipping.

10 in North East Derbyshire District Council and 10 in Bolsover District Council area (20 in total)

Initiatives scheduled for 2015/16

Bolsover	Event		North East Derbyshire	Event
MAY 2015				
16th May 2015 Saturday Attended by AG	Pinxton Parish Fun Day, PR event Contact: Selina Waltho CVP Coalfields Community Organiser 07860 785963			
JUNE 2015				
22nd June 2015, 10am – 1pm Monday Attended by	Pear Tree Estate, Shirebrook Contact: AG, Alison Loydall CVP Coalfields Community Organiser 07860 785946		24th June 2015, 10am – 4pm Wednesday Attended by	Grassmoor Country Park Contact: AG / Ian Stafford Derbyshire Countryside Rangers
23rd June 2015, 10am – 4pm Tuesday Attended by	Pleasley Pit Country Park Contact: AG / Ian Stafford Derbyshire Countryside Rangers			
28th June 2015	Bolsover Gala Day, Hornscroft			

Sunday	Park, PR event			
Attended by AG/SJ	Contact: Janet Woodhead, janet930@aol.com			
JULY 2015				
7th July 2015 Tuesday	PDSA Pet Check / Microchipping / responsible dog ownership – Bolsover		4th July 2015 Saturday	Clay Cross Gala Day, Sharley Park
Attended by	Contact: Emma Robinson PDSA 01952 797291		Attended by AG/SJ	Contact: Dawn Kershaw, Parish Clerk , Clerk [Clerk@claycross.gov. uk]
10th July 2015 Friday	PDSA Pet Check / Microchipping / responsible dog ownership – The Hub, South Normanton		8th July 2015 Wednesday	PDSA Pet Check / Microchipping / responsible dog ownership – Eckington
Attended by			Attended by	Contact: Emma Robinson PDSA 01952 797291
			9th July 2015 Thursday	PDSA Pet Check / Microchipping / responsible dog ownership – Sharley Park, Clay Cross
			Attended by	Contact: Emma Robinson PDSA 01952 797291
AUGUST 2015				
SEPTEMBER 2015				
5th September 2015 Saturday	Rhubarb Farm, Langwith, Annual Show			
Attended by	Contact: Jenny Street 07527-929- 592			

	PR Event			

EVENTS YET TO BE PLANNED – (Sept/Oct 2015)

- (1) Shirebrook Market Place on a Tuesday – contact Terry Bielby 07423 458872
- (2) Ashover area
- (3) Creswell Model Village Green
- (4) Dronfield (Marsh Avenue, Jubilee playing fields)
- (5) Barlborough Country Park / Whitwell - Southfield Lane/Clayfields area

Appendix C – example press releases following prosecution



news *release*

12 May 2014

Double Trouble for Fly-Tipper

It was a case of double trouble for a Worksop man who dumped two loads of rubbish on two country lanes in two separate council areas and ended up spending 12-hours in custody and double fine, totalling £1,300.

On 23 August 2013 Bolsover District Council and North East Derbyshire District Council were made aware of a large amount of controlled waste which had been tipped at Syday Lane, Barlborough and Gashouse Lane, Eckington.

At Syday Lane, 2 large suitcases containing clothing, approximately 20 black bags full of clothing, toys and garden waste, wood and household items had been dumped and at Gashouse Lane, around 30 black refuse bags containing clothing, household waste, household effects and documents.

After investigating the fly-tipping and receiving a witness report from a council worker, officers discovered the waste had been carried by Mr Shawn Kassim of Rydell Avenue, Langold. After being summoned to appear in court, Mr Kassim failed to attend a hearing, claiming he was on holiday when the Court wrote to him and did not return until after the hearing had taken place, so a warrant for his arrest was issued.

Bolsover District Council's Cabinet Member for the Environment, Councillor Dennis Kelly said, "Together with North East Derbyshire District Council, we provide a joint Environmental Health service and cases such as this highlight the effective partnership working between the two councils and other departments. We hope this sends out a strong message to others, that offenders will face the full force of the law if they fly tip in our districts and will be arrested if they don't attend court."

In mitigation, Kassim apologised for his actions. He explained that he had been paid £40 to take the waste to the Worksop recycling site, for which he had a permit, but that site had been closed due to a fire. He attempted to take the waste to a site at Dinnington but his

permit was not accepted there. As a result he had decided to dump the waste. Mr Kassim pleaded guilty to two offences of fly-tipping under Section 33 Environmental Protection Act

North East Derbyshire District Council's Cabinet Member for the Environment, Councillor Nick Foster said, "There is simply no excuse for this type of behaviour. We spend huge amounts of money each year to keep our districts' clean and tidy only for people like this to come along and dump their rubbish, just because they can't wait a few days to get rid of it responsibly. Well, we won't tolerate this and are delighted that the Court has seen fit to punish him with this fine."

The District Judge sentenced Mr Kassim to a fine of £860 (2 offences at £430 each) plus



News Release

£400 costs, and a £43 victim surcharge totalling £1303. Mr Kassim reached an agreement to repay the fine and costs at a rate of £200 per month.

ENDS

COUNCIL TACKLES DOG MESS AND LITTERING HEAD ON

A two-day exercise to target a known hot-spot for littering and dog fouling in Clowne has been hailed a success by Bolsover District Council.

Council officials and partner agencies took a high visibility approach around 'The Stumps' during the exercise wearing coloured tabards and actively speaking to people about the problems of dog fouling and litter and what other hazards it brings to the area.

During the two-day exercise, 74 piles of dog mess were picked up along the footpath and over 4,000 poop scoop bags were given out. A large amount of litter was also seen near the Boughton Lane/North Road bridge and action to remove this is currently underway.

Bolsover District Council's Cabinet Member for the Environment, Councillor Dennis Kelly said, "The amount of dog mess and litter we picked up shows there is a problem in this area, that's why we decided to tackle it head on and go out and speak to people walking along the footpath.

"We took a high visibility approach as we wanted people to come up and talk to us about the problems and understand what actions we are taking to deal with it. Those we spoke to were all very supportive and we feel we got our message out there."

This is one of many enforcement exercises the Council has been undertaking recently as they continue their commitment to tackling the problem hot spots around the District.

If you notice or want to report any dog fouling issues please visit www.bolsover.gov.uk or telephone 01246 242424.

END

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